

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State EXECUTIVE FILES

58-52  
Action

L

Info

SS

G

NEA

PR

AID

PC

P

USIA

INR

CIA

O

A

PER

OC

OCM

OCP

RMR

FROM: NICOSIA

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 673, JUNE 14, 5 PM

DEPTEL 502

49/ CONFIDENTIAL

43

Control: 11793

Rec'd: JUNE 14, 1963

11:56 AM

1 CHIEF  
 — DEP CH  
 — CH ENGR  
 — OPR OFF  
 — CH ED  
 — CH RPB  
 — LIA OFF  
 2 ADM OFF  
 3 EX FILE

ONE

2 ORR

25X1A

I SPOKE WITH CYPRIOT FONMIN THIS MORNING ABOUT PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES FOR OFFICIAL AMERICANS. I SAID THAT WE HAD BEEN ENDEAVORING TO FIND SOME WAY OF SOLVING PARTICULAR QUESTION OF DRIVERS' LICENSES AND AUTOMOBILE REGISTRATIONS IN ADVANCE OF MORE GENERAL DISCUSSION RELATING TO ALL PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES. WE HAD FOUND, HOWEVER, THAT THERE WERE TWO FACTS WHICH SEEMED TO BE OVERRIDING: 1) ON AUGUST 16, 1960, WHEN CYPRUS BECAME INDEPENDENT, AMERICAN CONGEN HAD BECOME AMEMBASSY, PRIVILEGES, INSTEAD OF BEING EXTENDED ON CONSULAR AND EX GRATIA BASIS, WERE THEREAFTER ACCORDED ON DIPLOMATIC BASIS; 2) MAKARIOS HAD IN HIS LETTER OF JANUARY 11, 1960, ASSURED US THAT USG FACILITIES WERE WELCOME IN CYPRUS AND SAID EXISTING ARRANGEMENTS WOULD CONTINUE SUBJECT TO POSSIBLE REVIEW AND FORMALIZATION IN NEW AGREEMENT UPON REQUEST OF EITHER OF US. IN VIEW OF THESE TWO FACTS, WE SUGGESTED THAT, AS HAD EARLIER BEEN SUGGESTED BY CYPRIOT ATTORNEY-GENERAL, MINISTER OF INTERIOR ISSUE DRIVERS' LICENSES AND AUTOMOBILE REGISTRATIONS ON TEMPORARY BASIS WITHOUT CHARGE.

I ALSO ADDED, ON PERSONAL BASIS, THAT I HAD LONG APPRECIATED COOPERATIVE WAY IN WHICH HE HAD DISCUSSED THIS QUESTION AND HAD ESPECIALLY WELCOME HIS EFFORTS TO WORK OUT VARIOUS QUESTIONS RELATING TO PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES, BUT THAT I WAS NOW CONCERNED THAT RECENT DEVELOPMENTS MIGHT BE MISINTERPRETED IN WASHINGTON. THESE DEVELOPMENTS INCLUDED 1) DISCUSSION OF QUESTION OF DRIVERS' LICENSES AND AUTOMOBILE REGISTRATIONS OVER PAST THREE YEARS, 2) INCIDENT AT NICOSIA AIRPORT INVOLVING OPENING OF UNCLASSIFIED DIPLOMATIC POUCH, AND 3) DELAY IN RECEIPT OF RADIO FREQUENCIES FOR DEPT OF STATE RADIO RELAY STATIONS.

State Dept. review completed

CONFIDENTIAL

REPRODUCTION FROM THIS COPY IS PROHIBITED UNLESS "UNCLASSIFIED"

CONFIDENTIAL

-2- 673, JUNE 14, 5 PM, FROM NICOSIA

I SAID THAT WE HERE UNDERSTOOD DIFFICULTIES WHICH GOC SOMETIMES ENCOUNTERED, BUT THAT I WOULD HAVE HARD JOB WHILE IN WASHINGTON ON CONSULTATION EXPLAINING THESE DIFFICULTIES. I ACCORDINGLY HOPED AT PROGRESS COULD SOON BE MADE AND URGED HIM TO SOLVE QUESTION OF DRIVERS' LICENSES AND AUTOMOBILE REGISTRATIONS AS SUGGESTED BY CYPRIOT ATTORNEY-GENERAL.

KYPRIANOU SAID HE UNDERSTOOD WAY IN WHICH WE ANALYZED QUESTION, BUT UNFORTUNATELY CYPRIOT LAW RE DRIVERS' LICENSES AND AUTOMOBILE REGISTRATIONS WAS SPECIFIC AND THERE SEEMED LITTLE LATITUDE IN IT. IT WAS ALSO GOC BELIEF THAT THERE WAS DIFFERENCE BETWEEN DIPLOMATIC AND NONDIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL, ALTHOUGH HE ADMITTED THAT ALL MIGHT HAVE OFFICIAL STATUS AS USG EMPLOYEES. HE SAID THAT HE WOULD, HOWEVER, GO INTO MATTER AND LET ME KNOW WHETHER WE COULD PROCEED ALONG LINES OF SUGGESTION OF CYPRIOT ATTORNEY-GENERAL.

KYPRIANOU ADDED THAT GOC WAS MOTIVATED BY FRIENDLIEST OF MOTIVES TOWARD US. IT SEEMED TO HIM PESENCE OF RADIO STATIONS IN CYPRUS WAS OF BENEFIT TO US. HE IMPLIED THAT ON THIS BASIS THERE OUGHT TO BE SOME RECIPROCAL ADVANTAGE FOR CYPRUS FROM STATIONS AND THEIR PERSONNEL.

I REPLIED THAT OPERATION OF STATIONS IN CYPRUS, IT SEEMED TO ME, WAS ALREADY BENEFICIAL TO BOTH OF US. STATIONS MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR US TO HANDLE DIPLOMATIC TRAFFIC OF DEPT OF STATE FOR MIDDLE EAST AND, AT SAME TIME, EXPENDITURES BY STATIONS WERE DEFINITE CONTRIBUTION TO CYPRIOT ECONOMY. I POINTED OUT THAT WE WERE NOW SPENDING CLOSE TO POUNDS 1 MILLION STERLING ANNUALLY. MANY AMERICANS BELIEVED LATTER CONTRIBUTION SHOULD BE SUFFICIENT JUSTIFICATION IN ITSELF WITHOUT ANY OTHER TYPE OF PAYMENT.

I ALSO ASKED IF GOC HAD AS YET WORKED OUT RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES OF ALL FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVES HERE AND WHEN THEY WOULD BE PUBLISHED. KYPRIANOU REPLIED THAT THEY HAD REACHED SOME TENTATIVE CONCLUSIONS, BUT HAD NOT PROCEEDED FURTHER PENDING CONCLUSION OF TALKS WITH US IN BELIEF THEY COULD SERVE AS PRECEDENT. KYPRIANOU ADDED IT

CONFIDENTIAL

-3- 673, JUNE 14, 5 PM, FROM NICOSIA

SEEMED TO HIM INCREASINGLY CLEAR THAT BILATERAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN US WOULD BE REQUIRED. SUCH AGREEMENT COULD INCORPORATE SUBSTANCE OF VIENNA CONVENTION, ALTHOUGH GOC PREFERRED THAT OTHER PHRASEOLOGY BE USED BECAUSE IT MIGHT WISH TO EXTEND SOME PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES TO US WHICH IT MIGHT NOT WANT TO EXTEND TO OTHER FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVES.

KYPRIANOU AND I ARRANGED TO MEET AGAIN NEXT THURSDAY, IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO MY DEPARTURE FOR US. KYPRIANOU HOPED TO HAVE REPLY RE TEMPORARY ARRANGEMENT AT THAT TIME.

SCP-3. V

WILKINS

HMR

CONFIDENTIAL